# Documentation Requirements for Healthy Food Certification (HFC)



Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)

Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education

- This presentation provides general guidance regarding the HFC documentation requirements
- For specific questions or additional guidance, please contact the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE)
  - See slides 84-85 for contact information

# Overview of HFC and Connecticut Nutrition Standards



### **HFC Requirements**

- Districts that choose the healthy food option of HFC receive additional state funding to follow the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) for all foods sold to students *separately* from reimbursable school meals, i.e., competitive foods
- The CSDE collects annual documentation to evaluate each district's compliance with the HFC requirements

https://www.cga.ct.gov/current/pub/chap\_169.htm#sec\_10-215f

# **CSDE Resource Summary of CNS**

#### Connecticut Nutrition Standards for School Years 2018-19 and 2019-20

This document summarizes the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) Connecticut Nutrition Standards for Foods in Schools for school years 2018-19 and 2019-20 [July 1, 2018, through June 30, 2020). The Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) is based on current nutrition science and national health recommendations from the 2015-2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans, and national health organizations such as the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine.

The CNS focuses on moderating calories, limiting fat, saturated fat, sodium, and sugars; eliminating trans fat; and increasing consumption of nutrient-rich foods such as fruits, regetables, whole grains, low-fat dairy, lean meats, and legumes. The CNS exceeds the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Smart Snacks nutrition standards for competitive foods in the final rule, National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School as Resulted by the HHFKA of 2010.

The CNS addresses all foods sold to students on school premises separately from reimbursable school meals in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP). Public schools that choose the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S) must follow the CNS for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable meals, at all times and from all sources. This includes, but is not limited to, a la carte sales in the cafeteria, vending machines, school stores, fundraisers, and any other sources of food sales to students on school premises. Foods that comply with the CNS are included in the CSDE's List of Acoptable Foods and Beverages, a brand-specific list of commercial food products that comply with the CNS and beverage requirements of C.G.S. Section 10-221q.

In HFC schools, foods that do not comply with the CNS can only be sold if the local board of education or governing authority votes to allow exemptions, and the following conditions are met:

- · the sale is in connection with an event occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend;
- . the sale is at the location of the event; and
- · the foods are not sold from a vending machine or school store.

An "event" is an occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting, or extracurricular activity. For example, soccer games, school plays, and school debates are events, but soccer practices, play rehearsals, and debate team meetings are not. The "school day" is the period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day. "Location" means where the event is being held, and must be the same place as the food sales. For example, foods can be sold on the side of the soccer field during a soccer game, but not in the school cafeteria while a game is played on the soccer field.

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#### **Definition**

### **Competitive Foods**

Any foods and beverages sold to students any time on school premises other than meals served through the USDA school meal programs



## **Sources of Competitive Foods**

- A la carte sales in the cafeteria
- Vending machines accessible to students
- School stores, kiosks, other school-based enterprises
- Fundraisers
- Any other venues selling foods and beverages to students (see slides 8-12)



- Adult education programs operated by the board of education on school premises
- Afterschool enrichment programs that charge students to participate and the fee includes the cost of foods and beverages provided to students
- Afterschool Snack Program (USDA)

- Classroom parties that collect a fee to cover the cost of foods and beverages provided to students
- Clubs and organizations that charge students to participate and the fee includes the cost of foods and Culinary arts programs (only if foods and beverages are sold to students)

- Family and consumer sciences classes (only if foods and beverages are sold to students)
- Family resource centers (only if foods and beverages are sold to students)
- Programs and meetings that charge students to participate and the fee includes the cost of foods and beverages provided to students

- Recipient schools under interschool agreements
- Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) operated by the board of education (only if foods and beverages are sold separately from SSO and SFSP meals)

- Sports programs that charge students to participate and the fee includes the cost of foods and beverages provided to students
- Summer school programs (e.g., enrichment or exploratory) operated by the board of education
- Any other programs, organizations, and activities selling foods and beverages to students on school premises

#### **Definition**

#### Sale

The exchange of foods or beverages for a determined amount of *money or its equivalent*, e.g., tickets, coupons, tokens, or similar items, including

- fee-based programs and activities that include the cost of foods and beverages provided to students
- activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages

## Where do the CNS apply?

#### **School Premises**

All areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education, the regional vocational-technical school system or the governing authority district or school



## When do the CNS apply?

- At all times except for sales that are exempted by the district's annual HFC Statement and meet the three exemption criteria
- Board of education or governing authority must vote to allow exemptions



### **Exemption Criteria**

1. The sale is in connection with an *event* occurring after the end of the regular school day or on the weekend



- 2. The sale is at the *location* of the event
- 3. The foods and beverages are *not sold* from a vending machine or school store

#### **Definition**

### **Regular School Day**

The period from midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day



#### **Definition**

#### **Event**

An occurrence that involves more than just a regularly scheduled practice, meeting or extracurricular activity



Event	Not An Event		
soccer game	soccer practice		
high school debate	debating team practice		
school play	play rehearsals		
school chess match	chess club		

### **Examples of Events \***

- Awards banquets
- Boy Scout Blue & Gold Dinner
- Craft fairs
- Debate team competitions
- Election day (if school is not in session)
- Family bingo nights
- Field days

- Math team competitions
- Mock trial competitions
- School carnivals
- School concerts
- School dances
- School fairs, e.g., health, science and math
- Silent auctions
- Sports banquets

- Sports games, tournaments and matches, e.g., basketball, football, soccer, tennis, field hockey, volleyball and cross county
- Talent shows
- Theatrical production

<sup>\*</sup> This list is not all-inclusive

For more information on the HFC requirements and the Connecticut Nutrition Standards

- review the resources on slides 21-23
- visit the CSDE's HFC and CNS webpages

http://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Healthy-Food-Certification

http://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Connecticut-Nutrition-Standards

# **Summary Chart: State and Federal Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools**

#### Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools

This document summarizes the federal and state requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students in public schools that participate the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP), and choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Certification (HEV) under Section 10-215f of the Connection General Stututes (CG.S.). "Originative foods are all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises, separately from reimbursable meals and snacks served through the USDA's Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs). Under Section 10-2156-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, competitive foods also include certain foods and beverages that are given to students while CNPs are operating.

The state HFC statute requires that each board of education or school governing authority for all Connecticut public schools participating in the NSLP must certify annually to the CSDE whether they will comply with the Connecticut Natrition Standards (CNS) for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable meals. Public schools are not required to comply with the CNS, but are required by the state HFC statute to certify each year whether they will on will not comply with the CNS. For information on HFC, visit the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) HFC webpage.

For an overview of the requirements for competitive foods in HFC public schools, see the CSDE's handout, Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools. For detailed guidance on the requirements for competitive foods in HFC public schools, see the CSDE's Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public School.

#### **Overview of Requirements**

All foods available for sale to students separately from reimbursable meals in HFC public schools must comply with the CNS. The CNS also applies to reimbursable snacks in the Afterschool Snack Program (ASP).

All beverages available for sale to students in HFC public schools separately from reimbursable meals and ASP snacks must comply with the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards (81 FR 50131) and any stricter requirements of the state beverage statute (C.G.S. Section 10-221q). The state beverage statute also applies to minhumable name and ASP medic



Note: While Smart Snacks addresses foods and beverages, only the beverage standards apply to HFC public schools. The food standards do not apply because the state HFC statuse (E.G.S Section 10:215) requires compliance with the stricter CNS, which supersedes the Smart Snacks food standards. The references to Smart Snacks in this document refer to the beverage standards. For a comparison of the CNS and Smart Snacks, eee the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the CMS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, CMS and Snacks Snacks, see the CSDE's h

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#### Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools

Table 2. Do the statutes and regulations apply?									
	Nutrition Standards				Sales to Students				
Source of foods and beverages	CNS and HFC	Beverages	USDA Smart	USDA Smart	Nutritious and low-fat foods (C.G.S. Section 10-221p)	State Competitive Foods Regulations			
	(C.G.S. Sections 10-215e and 10-215f)	(C.G.S. Section 10-221q)	Snacks food standards (81 FR 50131)	Snacks beverage standards (81 FR 50131)		Candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks (Section 10-215b-1)	Accrual of income (Section 10-215b-23)		
Cafeteria a la carte sales, i.e., foods and beverages sold separately from reimbursable meals in the NSLP and SBP (and any other CNPs operating in the cafeteria), including sales of tickets that students can exchange for a la carte foods and beverages	Yes, applies at all times <sup>1</sup>	Yes, applies at all times 1,2	Not applicable: Superseded by the stricter requirements of the CNS and HFC.	Yes, applies to all beverages sold to students on school premises during the school day. <sup>2</sup>	Yes, applies to all foods sold to students on school premises during the school day. Low-fat dairy products and fresh or dried fruit must be sold in the cafeteria or elsewhere on school premises at the same time.	Yes, but superseded by the stricter requirements of the CNS, HFC, and state beverage statute. The cafeteria can never sell candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students on school premises, 1,2 In addition, Section 10-215b-1 prohibits giving candy, coffee, tea, and soft drinks to students anywhere on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of the NSLP and SBP, and any other CNPs operating in the cafeteria, including during and after the school day.	Yes. Income from the NSLP and SBP already accrues to the nonprofit food service account. The nonprofit food service account must also receive the income (including ticket sales) from all other sales of foods and beverages to students on school premises from 30 minutes before up through 30 minutes stefare the NSLP and SBP, and any other CNPs operating in the cafeteria, including during and after the school day		

- 1 Cafeteria a la carte sales are ineligible for exemptions because they are not events; they must always comply with the CNS and state beverage statute.
- Beverages sold to students in public schools must comply with the Smart Snacks beverage standards and any stricter requirements of the state beverage statute. For information on these requirements, see the CSDE's handout, Allowable Beverages in Connecticut Schools, and visit the CSDE's Beverage Requirements webpage.

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# Requirements for Foods and Beverages in HFC Public Schools

#### Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in HFC Public Schools

This document summarizes the federal and state requirements for selling and giving competitive foods to students from fundraisers in Connecticut public schools that participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.). For guidance on the federal and state requirements and how they apply to different sources of foods and beverages in HFC public schools, see the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) handouts, Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools and Summary Chart: Federal and State Requirements for Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools. For detailed guidance on the requirements for competitive foods in HFC public schools, see the CSDE's Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools. For information on HFC, visit the CSDE's HFC webpage.

Fundraisers are any activities during which money or its equivalent (such as coupons, tickets, tokens, and similar items) is exchanged for the purchase of a product in support of the school or school-related activities. This includes any activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages, since funds may be raised as a result. Examples of food and beverage fundraisers include sales of commercial products, such as potato chips and other snack foods, candy bars, cookies, muffins, frozen cookie dough, pies, water, and soft drinks; and sales of foods and beverages made from scratch, such as baked goods, popcorn, sandwiches, smoothies, coffee, and hot chocolate.

The CSDE strongly encourages schools to promote consistent health messages to students by selling healthy foods or conducting nonfood fundraisers. The CSDE's handout, *Healthy Fundraising*, provides suggestions for fundraising with nonfood items and activities.

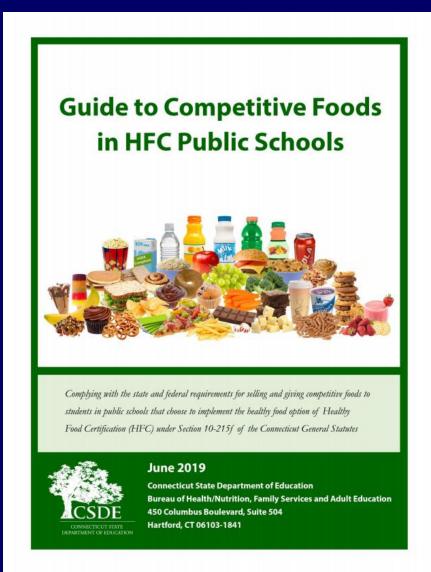
#### Overview of Federal and State Requirements

All foods available for sale to students from fundraisers in HFC public schools must comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS). All beverages available for sale to students from fundraisers in HFC public schools must comply with the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards (81 FR 50131) and any stricter requirements of the state beverage statute (C.G.S. Section 10-221q).

Note: While Smart Snacks addresses foods and beverages, only the beverage standards apply to HFC public schools. The food standards do not apply because the state HFC statute (C.G.S Section 10-215f) requires compliance with the stricter CNS, which supersedes the Smart Snacks food standards. The references to Smart Snacks in this document refer to the beverage standards. For a comparison of the CNS and Smart Snacks, see the CSDE's handout, Comparison of the Connecticat Nutrition Standards and the USDA's Smart Snacks Nutrition Standards.

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### Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools



https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/CompetitiveFoodsGuideHFC.pdf

# HFC Documentation School Year 2019-20



# Completing the HFC Documentation Materials

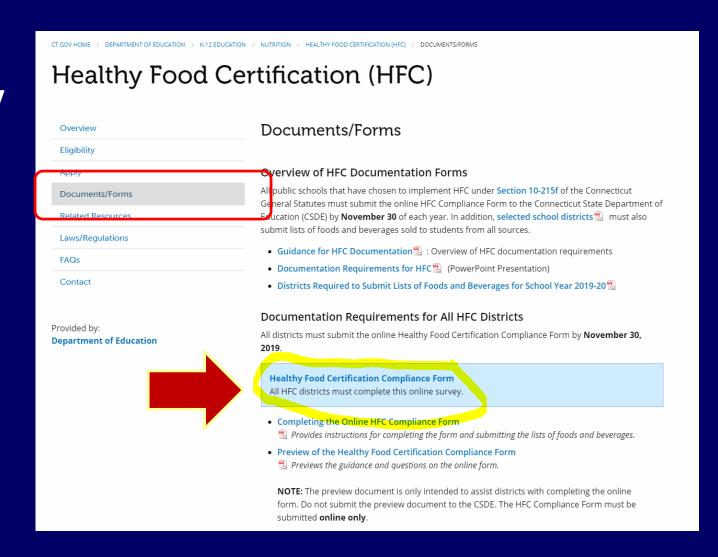
All districts must submit the online HFC compliance Form



### **Online HFC Compliance Form**

Access from "Documents/
Forms" section of HFC webpage:

Blue box



https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Healthy-Food-Certification/Documents

# Completing the HFC Documentation Materials

Certain districts must also submit lists of foods and beverages sold from all sources



### Who Submits Lists of Foods and Beverages

- Scheduled for administrative review of NSLP in current school year
- Did not implement HFC in prior school year
- Had significant compliance issues during prior school year's HFC review



### **Required Districts for 2019-20**

Access from "Documents/
Forms" section of HFC webpage



https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/Doc/RequiredDistricts.pdf

## CSDE Resource Required Districts

#### Districts Required to Submit Lists of Foods and Beverages

for 2019-20 Healthy Food Certification Documentation

All districts participating in Healthy Food Certification (HFC) for school year 2018-19 under Section 10-215 for the Connecticut General Statutes must complete the online HFC Compliance Form by November 30, 2019. Access this online form from the "Documents/Forms" section of the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) HFC webpage.

In addition to the HFC Compliance Form, the school districts listed on page 2 must submit lists of foods and beverages sold to students from all sources in the district, for the 2018-19 school year. These lists must be e-mailed to the CSDE. For instructions on completing and submitting the lists, see the CSDE's handout, Checklist for Healthy Food Certification Documentation for Districts Required to Submit Lists of Foods and Beverages.

The lists must include cafeteria sales, vending machines, school stores, kiosks, concession stands, other school-based enterprises, and any other sources of food and beverage sales to students, e.g., culinary arts programs, family and consumer sciences classes, afterschool programs, and recipient schools under interschool agreements. Include lists of fundraisers ONLY if they are not sold at exempted events occurring after the school day or on weekends. For more information, see the CSDE's handout, Requirement for Food and Beverge Fundraisers in Public Schools Choosing HFC.

Submit one list of foods and beverages for each area of food sales for the entire district, e.g., one list for all cafeteria a la carte sales in the district and one list for all vending machine sales in the district. Do not submit a separate list of items for each individual school.

The CSDE strongly encourages districts to simplify the documentation process by printing the appropriate sections of the CSDE's List of Acceptable Food and Barragae, highlighting all items sold to students in each area (e.g., cafeteria, vending machines, and school stores), and attaching to the appropriate CSDE form. The CSDE documentation forms are available in the "Documents/Forms" section of the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) HFC webpage. For more information on completing the documentation materials, see the CSDE's handout, Guidance for Documenting Compliance with Health Food Certification.

Complete the online HFC Compliance Form and e-mail all required documentation by November 30 to susan.fiore@ct.gov.

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# Submitting Online HFC Compliance Form



### **Online HFC Compliance Form**

Addresses foods and beverages sold to students from *all sources* in all schools and programs under the district's jurisdiction

Must be submitted by ALL DISTRICTS



### **Online HFC Compliance Form**

- Completed by the district's designated *HFC contact* person in consultation with all appropriate school staff members
  - all individuals responsible for any food and beverage sales to students



### **Before Starting Online Form**

- Review the CSDE's handouts
  - Completing the Online HFC
     Form
  - Preview of HFC Compliance Form
  - Gather all required information



# Guidance for Healthy Food Certification Documentation

#### School Year 2019-20

#### Guidance for Healthy Food Certification (HFC) Documentation

Districts participating in HFC under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) must provide annual documentation to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) to indicate that:

- all foods (purchased and school-made) sold to students separately from reimbursable meals served in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS); and
- all beverages sold to students (as part of and separately from reimbursable meals) comply
  with the requirements of C.G.S. Section 10-221q.

The required documentation applies to all foods and beverages sold to students in all district schools from all sources, including cafeteria sales, vending machines, school stores, kiosks, concession stands, other school-based enterprises, fundraisers, and any other sources of food and beverage sales to students. Examples include culinary arts programs, family and consumer sciences classes, afterschool programs, and recipient schools under interschool agreements. Successful compliance with the required documentation ensures that districts can maintain their HFC funding.

#### Required HFC Documentation

All HFC districts must submit the online HFC Compliance Form to the CSDE by November 30 of each year. Certain districts must also submit by e-mail lists of foods and beverages sold to students from all sources. This includes districts that are scheduled for a state administrative review of the NSLP in the current school year; districts that are implementing HFC for the first time this school year; and districts that had significant HFC compliance issues during the prior school year. Districts that meet these criteria for school year 2019-20 are listed on the CSDE's handout, Districts Regulard to Submit Food and Beverage Lists for School Year 2019-20. Note: Districts that are not listed do not submit lists of foods and beverages.

The CSDE documentation forms are available in the "Documents/Forms" section of the CSDE's HFC webpage. Note: These forms apply only to the districts listed on the CSDE's handout, Districts Required to Submit Food and Beverage Lists for School Year 2019-20.

- Form 1: Purchased Foods and Beverages Sold in Cafeteria
- . Form 2: School-made Foods Sold in Cafeteria
- · Form 3: Foods and Beverages Sold in Vending Machines
- Form 4: Foods and Beverages Sold in School Stores, Kiosks, or Other School-based Enterprises
- Form 5: Food and Beverage Fundraisers
- Form 6: Purchased Foods and Beverages Sold from Other Sources
- . Form 7: School-made Foods Sold from Other Sources

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# **Completing the Online Form**

#### School Year 2019-20

#### Completing the Online Healthy Food Certification (HFC) Compliance Form

All HFC districts must complete the online HFC Compliance Form by November 30, 2019. The link to the online HFC Compliance Form is available in the "Documents/Forms" section of the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) HFC webpage.

This form takes about 15 minutes to complete, depending on the type and amount of the district's food and beverage sales and if the required information has been collected in advance. Before completing the online form, preview the guidance and questions in the CSDE's handout, Preview of HFC Compliance Form, and gather the information noted below in "Information Needed before You Begin."

The bar at the top of the webpage shows your progress as you answer each question. If you need to quit the form before you are done, you can return at any time to continue where you left off. When you have successfully submitted the form, you will see the following message:

"Thank you for completing this year's online HFC Compliance
Documentation Survey. If your district is required to submit lists of
foods and beverages, please be sure to e-mail them to the CSDE by
November 30, following the instructions outlined in this survey and in
the CSDE's handout, Guidante for Healthy Food Certification Documentation.

The review process will take some time. The CSDE will notify you if additional information is needed. You will receive an e-mail when the review is complete and your district's HFC documentation is approved."

When you see this message, submission is complete and you cannot return to the form.

#### Information Needed Before You Begin

- Sponsor agreement number: This is the five-digit number on your online agreement for Child Nutrition Programs, located in the Online Application and Claiming System for Connecticut Child Nutrition Programs (CNP System).
- Name of district's designated HFC contact person: This is the person designated by the district as the contact person for HFC in "Section 6: HFC District Contact Information" of the district's annual HFC Statement in the CNP System.

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#### **CSDE** Resource

## Preview of HFC Compliance Form

9/17/2019

Qualtrics Survey Software

**Default Question Block** 

Healthy Food Certification (HFC) Documentation Survey School Year 2019-20

Please read before starting survey.

You may want to print this information for reference.

#### Information About the HFC Online Survey

Before you begin, please read the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) handout, <u>Guidance for Completing the Online Healthy Food Certification Compliance Form.</u> This will help you gather all needed information so you can complete the online form quickly.

To prevent duplicate submissions from the same district, the survey allows each computer to **submit only one** HFC Compliance Form. If you are responsible for more than one district, you will need to use a different computer to complete each district's HFC Compliance Form.

Read the information and notes for each section **before** you answer the questions. They provide guidance to help you answer each question.

If you quit the survey before you are done, you can return at any time to continue where you left off. After you click "submit," you cannot edit the survey.

#### Information About the HFC Online Compliance Form

The HFC Compliance Form must be submitted by **November 30, 2019**. This form addresses foods and beverages sold to students in *all district schools from all sources* including cafeteria sales, vending machines, school stores, kiosks, concession stands, other school-based enterprises, fundraisers, and any other sources of food and beverage sales to students, e.g., culinary arts

https://sdect.co1.qualtrics.com/Q/EditSection/Blocks/Ajax/GetSurveyPrintPreview

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## **Sections of Online HFC Compliance Form**

- 1 Beverage Exemptions
- 2 Food Exemptions
- 3 Cafeteria Beverage Sales
- 4 Cafeteria Food Sales
- 5 Vending Machines
- 6 School Stores
- 7 School Fundraisers
- 8 Foods and Beverages Sold from Other Sources



- Read the information and instructions at beginning of survey *before* starting the survey
- Print for reference



Healthy Food Certification (HFC) Documentation Survey School Year 2019-20

Please read before starting survey.

You may want to print this information for reference.

#### Information About the HFC Online Survey

Before you begin, please read the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) handout, <u>Guidance for Completing the Online Healthy Food Certification Compliance Form</u>. This will help you gather all needed information so you can complete the online form guickly.

To prevent duplicate submissions from the same district, the survey allows each computer to **submit only one** HFC Compliance Form. If you are responsible for more than one district, you will need to use a different computer to complete each district's HFC Compliance Form.

Read the information and notes for each section **before** you answer the questions. They provide guidance to help you answer each question.

If you quit the survey before you are done, you can return at any time to continue where you left off. After you click "submit," you cannot edit the survey.

Click the blue box on the bottom right (below the instructions) to start the survey

#### Submitting Food and Beverage Lists

Complete the appropriate CSDE form for each source of food and beverage sales. For example, use Form 1 for purchased foods and beverages sold in the cafeteria. All CSDE documentation forms are in the "Documents/Forms" section of the CSDE's HFC webpage.

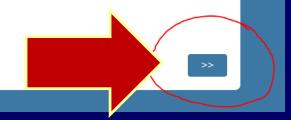
Submit **one list for each source** of food and beverage sales, for example, one list for all cafeteria a la carte sales in the entire district and one list for all vending machine sales in the entire district.

Scan the appropriate CSDE form for each source of food and beverage sales and the accompanying highlighted list. For example, attach the list of purchased foods sold a la carte in the cafeteria to **Form**1: Purchased Foods and Beverages Sold in the Cafeteria.

Name the document files in this format: "<insert name of district> HFC FB List <insert source, e.g., cafeteria, vending, school store, etc.>." For example, ABC District FB List Cafeteria, ABC District FB List Vending, and ABC District FB List School Store. In the e-mail subject line, indicate "<insert name of district> HFC FB Lists." For example, ABC District FB Lists. E-mail all list files to susan.fiore@ct.gov by November 30, 2019. Do not mail the lists.

If you have any questions, please contact Susan Fiore at <a href="mailto:susan.fiore@ct.gov">susan.fiore@ct.gov</a>.

To start the survey, **CLICK THE BLUE BOX** on the right below.



Read the section description and the definitions and guidance for each question to help determine the correct answer

**Question** guidance



## **Description of section content**

#### Section 3: Cafeteria Beverage Sales

This section applies to all **beverages sold in cafeterias**, including beverages sold to students as part of reimbursable meals and beverages sold to students a la carte (**separately** from reimbursable school meals). Examples include milk, water, juice and nondairy milk substitutes such as soy milk.

Do any cafeterias in your district sell any **beverages** such as milk, soy milk, juice, and water to students **separately** from reimbursable meals?

**NOTE:** A "no" answer mean the cafeteria **never** sells any beverages to students separately from reimbursable meals. For example, students cannot buy milk or juice unless it is part of a meal. *This is not common in Connecticut schools.* 

- O Yes
- O No

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#### **Definitions**

#### Section 4: Cafeteria Food Sales

The following definitions apply to the questions in this section.

A la carte foods are foods sold to students separately from reimbursable school meals. Examples include fruits, vegetables, fries, baked goods (e.g., muffins, pancakes, bagels, rolls), soups, entrees, and snack foods such as chips, ice cream, and cookies. A la carte foods include both commercially prepared (purchased) foods and school-made foods.

Purchased foods are any commercially prepared foods bought from vendors. They include ready-to-eat foods, such as ice cream, chips, crackers, cookies, and muffins; and foods that the food service operation heats or bakes, such as canned soup, chicken nuggets, and bake-off frozen cookie dough.

School-made foods are foods that 1) are prepared from scratch using a recipe, e.g., entrees, soups, baked goods, cooked grains (e.g., pasta and rice), vegetables, and salads; or 2) require some additional processing by adding other ingredients after purchasing, e.g., popping popcorn kernels with oil, making cookies from a mix and adding butter and eggs, and assembling a sandwich. Frozen commercially prepared foods such as cookies and rolls that are baked on site are not school-made foods, unless the school adds additional ingredients, e.g., adding sprinkles to a frozen sugar cookie or buttering a frozen bake-off roll.

Entrees for the CNS include three categories of main dish food items: 1) a combination food of meat/meat alternate and whole grain-rich (WGR) food, e.g., breakfast egg sandwich on a whole-wheat English muffin, turkey wrap on whole-wheat tortilla, pizza with WGR crust, hamburger on a whole-grain bun, and bean burrito in a whole-corn tortilla; 2) a combination food of vegetable/fruit and meat/meat alternate, e.g., chef's salad, fruit and cheese platter, yogurt and fruit parfaits, school-made yogurt and fruit smoothies, baked potato with chili, and chicken vegetable stir-fry; and 3) a meat/meat alternate alone (e.g., sausage patty, egg, and grilled chicken), excluding yogurt, low-fat or reduced fat cheese, nuts, seeds, nut/seed butters, and meat snacks, e.g., jerky and meat sticks. Yogurt served alone, cheese, nuts, seeds, nut/seed butters, and meat snacks must meet the nutrition standards for the "Snacks" category of the CNS.

Guidance for when answer should be YES or NO

Do any of the cafeterias in your district sell any a la carte foods to students (separately from reimbursable meals)?

#### Answer "YES" if:

- the cafeteria sells any a la carte foods to students, such as snack foods (e.g., chips, ice cream, crackers, cookies), baked goods, vegetables, salads, breads, pasta, rice, and desserts: and/or
- the cafeteria sells any entree items a la carte on a different day than they are sold as part of reimbursable meals.

#### Answer "NO" if:

- the cafeteria does not sell any foods a la carte, such as snack foods (e.g., chips, ice cream, crackers, cookies), baked goods, vegetables, salads, breads, pasta, rice, and desserts: and
- the cafeteria only sells entrees a la carte to students on the same day that they are sold as part of reimbursable meals.

NOTE: A "no" answer means the cafeteria only sells reimbursable meals and never sells any foods to students separately from reimbursable meals. For example, students cannot buy an apple, carrot sticks, muffin, or sandwich unless it is part of a school meal. This is not common in Connecticut schools.

O No

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## **Online HFC Compliance Form**

When you have successfully submitted the form, you will see the following message



Thank you for completing this year's online HFC Compliance Documentation Survey. If your district is required to submit lists of foods and beverages, please be sure to e-mail them to the CSDE by **November 30**, following the instructions outlined in this survey and in the CSDE's handout, <u>Guidance for HFC Documentation</u>.

The review process will take some time. The CSDE will notify you if additional information is needed. You will receive an e-mail when the review is complete and your district's HFC documentation is approved.

## **Online HFC Compliance Form**

- Can submit only one survey from a computer
- If you quit the survey before you are done, you can return at any time to continue where you left off
  - Cannot edit survey after submission



# Submitting Lists of Foods and Beverages

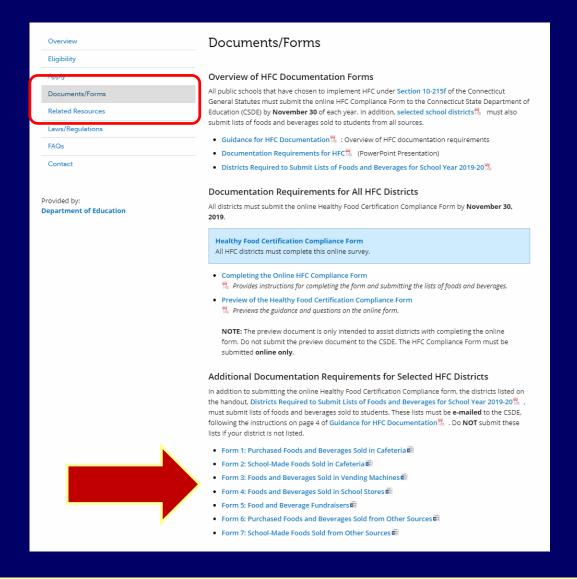


## **Required Districts**

If your district/school is not listed, complete the *Online HFC Compliance Form* but do not submit lists of foods and beverages

#### **HFC Documentation Forms 1-7**

Access from "Documents/Forms" section of HFC webpage



https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Healthy-Food-Certification/Documents

## **HFC Documentation Forms**

- Download current year's forms
  - Do not use old forms
- Complete all information in each section

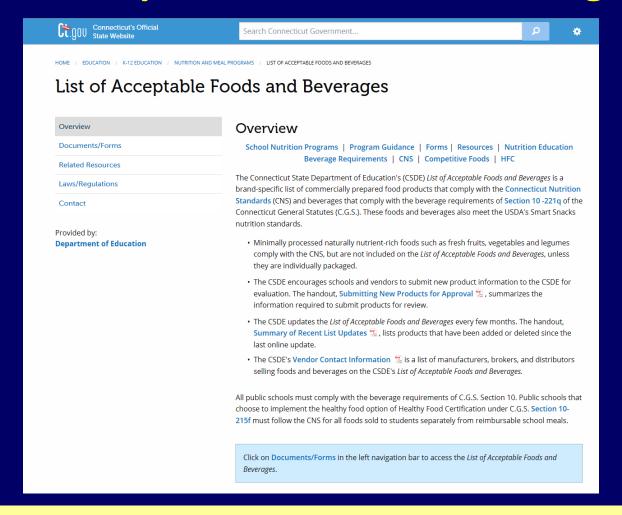


## Purchased Foods Forms 1, 3-6



## **CSDE** Webpage

### **List of Acceptable Food and Beverages**



https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/List-of-Acceptable-Foods-and-Beverages

#### **Definition**

## **Purchased Foods**

- Commercially prepared foods bought from vendors
- Include
  - ready-to-eat foods, e.g., ice cream, chips, crackers, cookies, and muffins
  - foods that the food service operation heats or bakes, e.g., canned soup, chicken nuggets, and bake-off frozen cookie dough



### What to Include on Lists

#### Purchased Foods (Forms 1, 3-6)

#### Include

- All purchased foods sold a la carte to students such as baked goods, salads, vegetables, cooked grains, and soup \*
- Entrees that are only sold a la carte (not as part of reimbursable meals) \*

#### Do not include

 Entree items sold as part of reimbursable meals that are also sold a la carte at the same meal on the same day



\* As served, including any accompaniments

#### **Definition**

#### **Entrees**

Three categories of main dish food items

- 1. A combination food of meat/meat alternate and whole grain-rich (WGR) food
- 2. A combination food of vegetable/fruit and meat/meat alternate
- 3. A meat/meat alternate alone, excluding yogurt, low-fat or reduced fat cheese, nuts, seeds, nut/seed butters, and meat snacks, e.g., jerky and meat sticks





# School-made Foods Forms 2 and 7



#### **School-made Foods**

- 1. Foods prepared from scratch using a recipe, e.g., entrees, soups, baked goods, cooked grains (pasta and rice), vegetables, and salad
- 2. Foods requiring some *additional processing* by adding other ingredients after purchasing















#### **Examples of School-made Foods**

- Assembling a sandwich
- Making soup from scratch
- Making commercial tomato soup with milk instead of water
- Popping popcorn kernels with oil
- Making cookies or muffins from a mix and adding butter and eggs

- Adding sprinkles to purchased frozen cookie dough
- Making salads with dressing
- Cooking vegetables with oil, margarine, or butter
- Cooking pasta or rice with oil, margarine, or butter

#### What to Include on Lists

### School-made Foods (Forms 2 and 7)

#### Include

## Do not includeEntree items sold as part

- All school-made foods sold a la carte to students such as baked goods, salads, vegetables, cooked grains and soup \*
- Entrees that are only sold a la carte (not as part of reimbursable meals) \*
- Entree items sold as part of reimbursable meals that are also sold a la carte at the same meal on the same day
- Commercially prepared bake-off items such as cookies and rolls unless add ingredients such as
  - buttering a roll before baking
  - adding sprinkles to frozen cookie dough



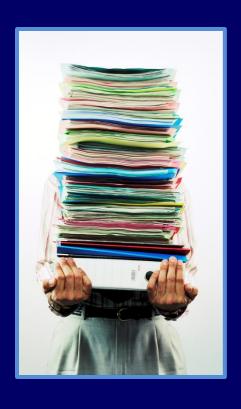
## **How to Submit Lists**

- 1. Complete the appropriate CSDE form for each source of food and beverage sales
- 2. Scan the CSDE form with required attachments
  - Purchased foods: Highlighted list for that source of food and beverage sales
  - School-made foods: Recipes and completed CSDE worksheets



#### **How to Submit Lists**

- 3. Name document file "[insert name of district] HFC FB List [insert source]"
  - ABC District FB List Cafeteria
- 4. E-mail subject line "[insert name of district] HFC FB Lists"
  - ABC District FB Lists
- 5. E-mail all files by November 30 to susan.fiore@ct.gov



# Fundraisers Form 5



#### **DEFINITION**

#### **Fundraisers**

Any activities conducted by any school-related or outside organization or group on school premises, during which money or its equivalent is exchanged for the purchase of a product in support of the school or school-related activities



 Includes activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages

## **Money Equivalents**

- Tickets
- Coupons
- Tokens
- Gift cards
- Entertainment books
- Any other similar items



#### **Food Fundraisers**

#### **Not Allowed**

#### **Allowed**

Students deliver money to school for food or beverage items and pick up food or beverage items at school

Students deliver money to school for food or beverage items but parents or other adults pick up food or beverage items at school

Fundraiser is selling food to students on school premises

Fundraiser is not selling food to students on school premises

#### Do not Submit Form 5 if

- Fundraisers have been exempted by the board of education or school governing authority and meet the three exemption criteria (see slide 16)
- Food fundraisers are sold during the school day but *comply* with the CNS, the state competitive foods regulations, and C.G.S. Section 10-221p

#### Do not Submit Form 5 if

- Beverage fundraisers are sold during the school day but *comply* with the state beverage statute (C.G.S. Section 10-221q), the state competitive foods regulations, and C.G.S. Section 10-221p
- Fundraisers are sold only to adults, not students



#### **CSDE** Resource

## Sample Fundraiser Form

of S allo pro	food fundraisers must meet Section 10-221q of the Conn- ow exemptions and the foods ovided they are not sold from te Department of Education's	ectiont Ger s and bever a vending	neral Statute rages are sol machine or	s and the USI d at the locati school store.	OA Smart Snacks star on of events that occ Information on accep	ndards unless the b or after the school ( table fundraisers can	oard of education votes day or on the weekend,
Sch	nool where fundraiser will o	ccur:					
Fw	ndraising organization:						
Fw	ndraising contact person:						
Pho	one:			E-mail:			
Da	tes of fundraiser: I	FROM _	/	/	то	month /	dav vear
1.	Will the fundraiser sell any for  a. Do the food items meet  No  Yes, how determined	the Conne	eticut Nutriti	on Standards?	Skip to question 2 of Acceptable Foods and i	Beverages*, conducted	recipe analysis)
2.	Will the fundraiser sell any b.  a. Do the beverages meet t  No  Yes, how determined	the requirer	nents of state	statute?	kip to question 3 Acceptable Foods and E	everages*, conducted	recipe analysis)
3.	List all food or beverage item	ns sold, e.g.	, candy, cook	ie dough, cake	s, soda, etc. (Attach :	dditional pages if	necessary)
	Manufacturer				Food or Bev	erage	
					10000120		
4.	Who will the fundraiser item			that apply) School staff	_	ÿ):	
		ind other ad	lults [	School staff	Other (specif	ÿ):	remises
5.	Students Parents a	onducted	dults [ ] (Check all ] (Check all	School staff  that apply)  that apply)	☐ Other (specif	r): es	
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5. 6. 7. 8.	□ Students □ Parents a Where will the fundraiser be □ After school day: Indicas Will the fundraiser be condu □ No □ Yes, describe event: How will the fundraiser be c he CSDE's List of Ausptable Foods of district use only. Fundraiser is Approved: Fundraiser mests	and other accordinated conducted? to times conducted? conducted? conducted? conducted? conducted?	tults   C (Check all  C (Check	School staff (that apply) that apply) that apply) m event that l ales process, r d-specific foods	Other (specification of the control	y): ss Off school p Tadicate times te times by the board of edu sss and pick up proc	educes:

< Insert District Name> Request Form for Food and Beverage Fundraisers in HFC Public Schools

https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/HFC/FundraiserFormHFC.doc

#### **CSDE** Resource

### Requirements for Food and Beverage Fundraisers

#### REQUIREMENTS FOR FOOD AND BEVERAGE FUNDRAISERS

in Public Schools Choosing Healthy Food Certification

This document summarizes the requirements for food and beverage fundraisers in public schools that choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.). "Fundraisers" are any activities during which money or its equivalent (such as tickets, coupons tokens, and similar items) is exchanged for the purchase of a product in support of the school or school-related activities. This includes any activities that suggest a student donation for foods and beverages, since funds may be nised as a result.



- The requirements for food fundraisers in public schools are governed by the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) of C.G.S. Section 10-215e; the state competitive foods regulations (Section 10-Guide to 215b-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies); and the state requirement to sell healthy food choices (C.G.S. Section 10-221p).
- The requirements for beverage fundraisers in public schools are governed by the state beverage requirements of C.G.S. Section 10-221q and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Smart Sancks mutrition standards for competitive foods, National School Lunch Program and School Breakfast Program: Nutrition Standards for All Foods Sold in School at Required by the HHFKA of 2010 (Federal Register, Vol. 81, No. 146, July 29, 2016).

These federal and state laws apply to all fundraising activities conducted on school pzemises by school-related organizations (such as student clubs, sports teams, and music programs) and outside organizations not affiliated with the school, such as scouting programs and other youth-based community organizations.

#### FOOD FUNDRAISERS

All foods sold to students in HFC public schools must comply with the CNS, including fundraisers using commercial products, such as potato chips, candy bars, frozen cookie dough and muffin mix; and fundraisers using foods made from scratch, such as baked goods, popecom, sandwiches, and smoothies. Foods that do not comply with the CNS can only be sold to students if the local board of education or school governing authority votes to allow exemptions and the food sales meet the specific exemption enteria (see "Food and Bewenge Exemptions" on page 2). For more information, see the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) handout, Summay of Connecticut Nationals, and the CSDE's CNS webpage.

#### BEVERAGE FUNDRAISERS

All beverages sold to students as fundanisess must comply with Smart Smacks and the stricter provisions of the state beverage statute (C.G.S. Section 10-221q). The Smart Smacks standards apply only to beverages sold to students during the school day. The state beverage statute applies to beverages sold to students at all times, regardless of whether public schools participate in the USDA school autotion programs. Beverages that do not comply with the state beverage statute on only be sold to students if the local board of education or school governing authority votes to allow exemptions and the beverage sales meet the specific exemption criteria (see "Food and Beverage Exemptions" on page 2). For more information, see the CSDE's knodown, Adiawski Everages in

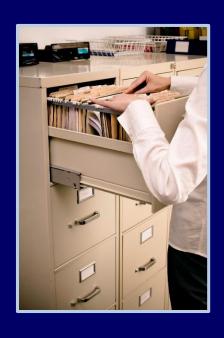
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# **CSDE Review Procedures For HFC Documentation**



### **CSDE Review Procedures**

- Districts submit HFC documentation by *November 30* (early submission encouraged)
  - All districts complete online HFC Compliance Form
  - Certain districts (see slide 30) submit lists of foods and beverages to CSDE



### **CSDE Review Procedures**

2. CSDE reviews HFC documentation materials and notifies districts by e-mail regarding any information that is missing or needs clarification



3. Districts provide additional information to CSDE by designated deadline

#### **CSDE Review Procedures**

- 4. CSDE completes HFC review process and e-mails final compliance status
  - E-mail notification acknowledges district's compliance with state statutes for HFC and CNS
  - Maintain on file for auditing purposes



## Resources



## **Guidance for HFC Documentation**

#### School Year 2018-19

#### GUIDANCE FOR HEALTHY FOOD CERTIFICATION (HFC) DOCUMENTATION

Districts participating in HFC under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) must provide annual documentation to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) to indicate that

- all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable meals served in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP) and School Breakfast Program (SBP) comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS); and
- all beverages sold to students comply with the requirements of C.G.S. Section 10-221q.

This applies to all foods and beverages sold to students in all district schools from all sources including cafeteria sales, vending machines, school stores, kiosks, concession stands, other school-based enterprises, fundraisers, and any other sources of food and beverage sales to students, e.g., culinary arts programs, family and consumer sciences classes, afterschool programs, and recipient schools under interschool agreements. Successful compliance ensures that districts can maintain their HFC funding.

#### REQUIRED HFC DOCUMENTATION

All HFC districts must submit the online HFC Compliance Form to the CSDE by November 30 of each year. Additionally, certain districts must also submit by e-mail lists of foods and beverages sold to students from all sources. This includes districts that are scheduled for a state administrative review of the NSLP in the current school year, districts that are implementing HFC for the first time this school year, and districts that had significant HFC compliance issues during the prior school year. Districts that meet these criteria for school year 2018-19 are listed on the CSDE's handout, District Required to Submit Food and Beerings Lists. Districts not listed on this handout do not submit lists of foods and beverages.

The CSDE documentation forms are available as PDF and "tab and type" documents in the "Documents/Forms" section of the CSDE's HFC webpage.

- Form 1 Purchased Foods and Beverages Sold in Cafeteria
- Form 2 School-made Foods Sold in Cafeteria
- Form 3 Foods and Beverages Sold in Vending Machines
- Form 4 Foods and Beverages Sold in School Stores, Kiosks, or Other School-based Enterprises
- Form 5 Food and Beverage Fundraisers
- . Form 6 Purchased Foods and Beverages Sold from Other Sources
- Form 7 School-made Foods Sold from Other Sources

The district's HFC designated contact person should complete these forms in consultation with all appropriate school staff members such as the school food service director, cafeteria managers, culinary arts teachers, family and consumer sciences teachers, athletic directors, parent groups, and individuals who coordinate fundraising activities, school stores, kiosks, other school-based enterprises, vending machines, and any other food or beverage sales to students.

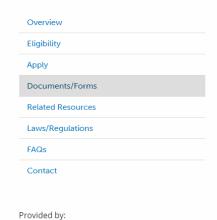
#### PURCHASED FOODS AND BEVERAGES

Districts required to submit lists of foods and beverages must include all items sold in the entire district from each source, e.g., cafeeriars, vending machines, school stores, and any other sources. Do not submit a separate list of items for each individual school. The CSDE strongly recommends that districts simplify the documentation process by printing the appropriate pages of the CSDE's List of Australia and Decrease, highlighting all items sold to students in each area (e.g., cafeeters, vending machines, and school stores), and attaching these pages to the appropriate CSDE form. For example, attach the

Connecticut State Department of Education • September 2018 • Page 1 of 4

# **CSDE Webpage HFC Documentation Forms**

### Healthy Food Certification (HFC)



**Department of Education** 

#### Documents/Forms

#### **HFC Documentation Forms**

All public schools that have chosen to implement HFC under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes must submit the online HFC Compliance Form to the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE) by November 30 of each year. In addition, selected school districts must also submit lists of foods and beverages sold to students from all sources.

#### All Districts

All districts must submit the online Healthy Food Certification Compliance Form by **November 30**, **2019**. Districts can **preview the guidance and questions** defore completing the online form.

**NOTE:** The preview document is only intended to assist districts with completing the online form. Do not submit the preview document to the CSDE. The HFC Compliance Form must be submitted **online only**.

#### Selected Districts

Districts listed on the handout, Districts Required to Submit Lists of Foods and Beverages for School Year 2019-201, must submit lists of foods and beverages sold to students. These lists must be emailed to the CSDE. For more information, see page 4 of Guidance for HFC Documentation . Do NOT submit these lists if your district is not listed.

- Form 1: Purchased Foods and Beverages Sold in Cafeteria
- Form 2: School-Made Foods Sold in Cafeteria
- Form 3: Foods and Beverages Sold in Vending Machines
- Form 4: Foods and Beverages Sold in School Stores
- Form 5: Food and Beverage Fundraisers
- Form 6: Purchased Foods and Beverages Sold from Other Sources
- Form 7: School-Made Foods Sold from Other Sources

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Healthy-Food-Certification/Documents

# **Ensuring District Compliance with HFC**

#### **Ensuring District Compliance with Healthy Food Certification**

School districts that choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) must ensure that all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable meals comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS). The CNS applies to all purchased and school-made foods sold in the cafeteria, school stores, vending machines, fundraisers, and any other sources of food sales to students. The four strategies below assist districts with HFC compliance.



Verify that all foods comply with the CNS *before* offering them for sale to students.

#### Purchased Items

Allowable items are included on the Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) Lin of Acceptable Foods and Beverages, a brand-specific list of foods that comply with the CNS and beverages that that comply with the state beverage statute (C.G.S. Section 10-221q). If a product is not listed, the district must determine compliance with the CNS before selling the product to students. The worksheets in the "How To" section of the CSDE's CNS webpage assist schools with determining product compliance. Districts can submit product information to the CSDE for review. Acceptable products will be added to the online list. For more information, see the CSDE's handout, Submitting Food and Beverage Product for Approach.

Note: The CSDE strongly recommends using the List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages to determine which commercial food and beverages may be sold, instead of evaluating items locally. This helps to ensure HFC compliance.

#### School-made Foods

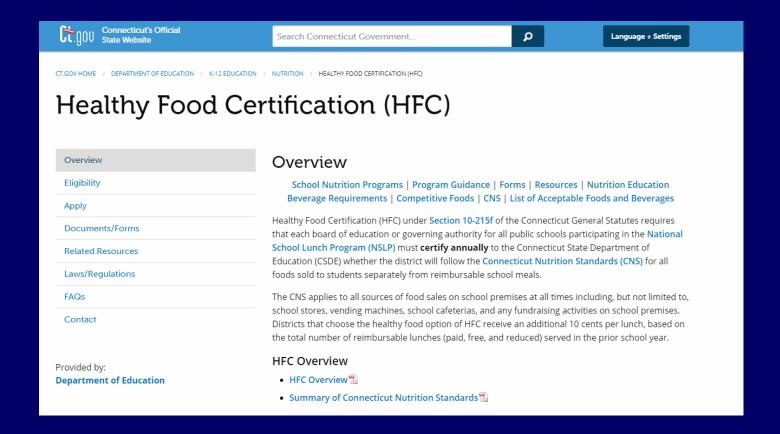
Before schools can sell school-made foods to students separately from reimbursable meals, the district is responsible for conducting a nutrient analysis of recipes to determine compliance with the CNS. School-made foods include the foods below.

- Foods prepared from scratch using a recipe, e.g., entrees (such as pizza, chef's salad, and
  chicken nuggets) sold only a la carte; soups; cooked grains such as rice and pasta with added
  oil or margarine; cooked vegetables with added oil or margarine; salad with dressing; fruit
  smoothies; and baked goods such as muffins and cookies.
- Foods that have additional ingredients added after purchasing, e.g., popping popcom kernels
  in oil; assembling a sandwich; making muffins from a mix and adding butter and eggs; and
  adding sprinkles to commercial frozen cookie dough.

The CSDE's handout, Guidance on Evaluating Recipes for Compliance, provides information on evaluating recipes.

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# **CSDE Webpage**Healthy Food Certification



https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/Healthy-Food-Certification

# CSDE Webpage List of Acceptable Food and Beverages

CT.GOV HOME / EDUCATION / K-12 EDUCATION / NUTRITION AND MEAL PROGRAMS / LIST OF ACCEPTABLE FOODS AND BEVERAGES List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages Overview Overview Documents/Forms School Nutrition Programs | Program Guidance | Forms | Resources | Nutrition Education Beverage Requirements | CNS | Competitive Foods | HFC Related Resources The Connecticut State Department of Education's (CSDE) List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages is a Laws/Regulations brand-specific list of commercially prepared food products that comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) and beverages that comply with the beverage requirements of Section 10 -221g of the Contact Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.). These foods and beverages also meet the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards. · Minimally processed naturally nutrient-rich foods such as fresh fruits, vegetables and legumes Provided by: comply with the CNS, but are not included on the List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages, unless **Department of Education** they are individually packaged. • The CSDE encourages schools and vendors to submit new product information to the CSDE for evaluation. The handout, Submitting New Products for Approval , summarizes the information required to submit products for review. • The CSDE updates the List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages every few months. The handout, Summary of Recent List Updates 1/22, lists products that have been added or deleted since the last online update. • The CSDE's Vendor Contact Information [2] is a list of manufacturers, brokers, and distributors selling foods and beverages on the CSDE's List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages. All public schools must comply with the beverage requirements of C.G.S. Section 10. Public schools that choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification under C.G.S. Section 10-215f must follow the CNS for all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable school meals. Go to the Documents/Forms section in the left navigation bar to access the List of Acceptable Foods

https://portal.ct.gov/SDE/Nutrition/List-of-Acceptable-Foods-and-Beverages/Documents

and Beverages.

# **Ensuring District Compliance with HFC**

#### **Ensuring District Compliance with Healthy Food Certification**

School districts that choose to implement the healthy food option of Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) must ensure that all foods sold to students separately from reimbursable meals comply with the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS). The CNS applies to all purchased and school-made foods sold in the cafeteria, school stores, vending machines, fundraisers, and any other sources of food sales to students. The four strategies below assist districts with HFC compliance.



Verify that all foods comply with the CNS *before* offering them for sale to students.

#### Purchased Items

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Note: The CSDE strongly recommends using the List of Acceptable Foods and Beverages to determine which commercial food and beverages may be sold, instead of evaluating items locally. This helps to ensure HFC compliance.

#### School-made Foods

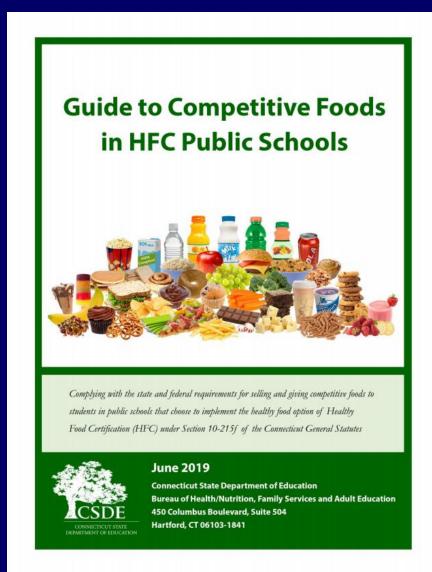
Before schools can sell school-made foods to students separately from reimbursable meals, the district is responsible for conducting a nutrient analysis of recipes to determine compliance with the CNS. School-made foods include the foods below.

- Foods prepared from scratch using a recipe, e.g., entrees (such as pizza, chef's salad, and
  chicken nuggets) sold only a la carte; soups; cooked grains such as rice and pasta with added
  oil or margarine; cooked vegetables with added oil or margarine; salad with dressing; fruit
  smoothies; and baked goods such as muffins and cookies.
- Foods that have additional ingredients added after purchasing, e.g., popping popcom kernels
  in oil; assembling a sandwich; making muffins from a mix and adding butter and eggs; and
  adding sprinkles to commercial frozen cookie dough.

The CSDE's handout, Guidance on Evaluating Recipes for Compliance, provides information on evaluating recipes.

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# Guide to Competitive Foods in HFC Public Schools



https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/CompetitiveFoodsGuideHFC.pdf

# **Questions and Answers on Connecticut Statutes**

Questions and Answers on Connecticut Statutes for School Foods and Beverages



Connecticut State Department of Education Bureau of Health/Nutrition, Family Services and Adult Education 450 Columbus Boulevard, Suite 504 Hartford, CT 06103-1841

Revised September 2018

# Resources for Healthy Foods and Beverages in Schools

#### Resources for Healthy Foods and Beverages in Schools

This document summarizes webpages and resources to assist schools with implementing the federal and state requirements for competitive foods in schools, from the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), U.S. Department of Agiculture (USDA), and other organizations. "Competitive foods" are all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises, separately from reimbursable meals and snacks served through the USDA's Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs). Under Section 10-215b-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, competitive foods also include certain foods and beverages that are given to students while CNPs are operating.

The federal and state requirements include:

- Healthy Food Certification (HFC) under Section 10-215f of the Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.);
- the Connecticut Nutrition Standards (CNS) under C.G.S. Section 10-215e;
- USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards for competitive foods (81 FR 50131);
- Connecticut's beverage statute for public schools (C.G.S. Section 10-221q);
- Connecticut's statute requiring public schools to sell nutritious and low-fat foods whenever
  foods are sold to students during the school day (C.G.S. Section 10-221p);
- Connecticut's competitive foods regulations (Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies);
- USDA's School Wellness Policy (Section 4 of Public Law 108-265 and the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010);
- . USDA's regulation for revenue from nonprogram foods (7 CFR 210.14 (f)); and
- USDA's policies and guidance for competitive foods (USDA policy memos for the NSLP and SBP).

These laws determine what and when foods and beverages may be sold or given to students. They also regulate the accrual of income from sales of competitive foods. Some laws apply differently depending on whether the school is a public school, private school, or residential child care institutions (RCCIs). Some laws apply during the school day, while others apply at all times or while the USDA's CNPs are operating. When the federal and state laws supersede each other, schools must follow the stricter requirements. For an overview of these requirements, see the CSDE's handout, Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticat Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions.



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# Connecticut's Competitive Foods Regulations

#### **Connecticut Competitive Foods Regulations**

This guidance applies to schools and institutions that participate in the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs), including the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) of the NSLP, Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP, Special Milk Program (SMP), Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-risk Afterschool Meals operated in schools, and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) operated in schools.

Note: Residential child care institutions (RCCIs) may be eligible to participate in the ASP if they operate an afterschool care program with enrichment or education activities that meet the criteria for ASP participation. RCCIs may be eligible to serve At-risk Afterschool Meals if they have non-residential care programs and these programs offer afterschool education and enrichment programs for nonresidential children.

#### \*\*\*\*

Effective August 25, 1992, Sections 10-215b-1 and 10-215b-23 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies address restrictions for sale and dispensing competitive foods to students on school premises and the accrual of income from competitive foods.

- "Competitive foods" are all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school
  premises separately from reimbursable meals and snacks in the CNPs.
  - The USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards address sales of competitive foods during the school day, which is the period from the midnight before to 30 minutes after the end of the official school day.
  - The state competitive foods regulations address sales of competitive foods from 30
    minutes before up through 30 minutes after the operation of any CNPs, including
    during and after the school day. They also restrict giving certain foods and beverages
    to students during this time.
  - The Connecticut General Statutes (C.G.S.) for Healthy Food Certification (HFC) (C.G.S. Section 10-215f) and allowable beverages (C.G.S. Section 10-221q) address sales of competitive foods at all times, except for sales that meet specific exemption criteria (see "Food exemptions for HFC public schools" on page 4 and "Beverage exemptions for HFC public schools" on page 7).
- "Sales" means the exchange of a determined amount of money or its equivalent (such as
  coupons, tickets, tokens, and similar items) for foods and beverages. Sales also include
  programs and activities that charge a fee that includes the cost of foods and beverages
  provided to students, and activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods
  and beverages.

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https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/SDE/Nutrition/CompFoods/CTCompFoodRegulation.pdf

# Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and RCCIs

Overview of Federal and State Laws for Competitive Foods in Connecticut Public Schools, Private Schools, and Residential Child Care Institutions

This document summarizes the federal and state laws for selling and giving competitive foods to students in Connecticut public schools, private schools, and residential child care institutions (RCCIs). These laws determine what and when foods and beverages may be sold or given to students. They also regulate the accrual of income from sales of competitive foods. Some laws apply differently depending on the type of school. Some laws apply during the school day, while others apply at all times or while the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Child Nutrition Programs (CNPs) are operating. When the federal and state laws supersede each other, schools must follow the stricter requirements. The definitions below apply to the federal and state laws for competitive foods.

- "Competitive foods" are all foods and beverages available for sale to students on school premises, separately from reimbursable meals and snacks
  served through the CNPs. Under Section 10-215b-1 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, competitive foods also include candy,
  coffee, tea, and soft drinks that are given to students on school premises while any CNPs are operating, including during and after the school day.
- The CNPs include the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Afterschool Snack Program (ASP) of the NSLP, Seamless Summer Option (SSO) of the NSLP, Special Milk Program (SMP), Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program (FFVP), Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) At-risk Afterschool Meals operated in schools, and Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) operated in schools.
- "Sales" means the exchange of a determined amount of money or its equivalent (such as coupons, tickets, tokens, and similar items) for foods and beverages. Sales also include programs and activities that charge a fee that includes the cost of foods and beverages provided to students, and activities that suggest a student donation in exchange for foods and beverages. Under Connecticut's statutes and regulations for competitive foods, sales include coupons and similar items that are given to students (such as food rewards), and can be exchanged for foods and beverages. However, the USDA's Smart Snacks nutrition standards do not apply when coupons and similar items are given to students.
- "Giving" means that foods and beverages are provided free of any charge, contribution, or suggested donations; and without the exchange of
  tickets, coupons, tokens, and similar items to obtain foods and beverages.
- "School premises" include all areas of the property under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education, the regional vocationaltechnical school system (Connecticut Technical Education and Career System (CTECS)), or the governing authority district or school.

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# **CSDE Child Nutrition Programs**

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